Remarks

The Amendment/Reply is being presented to enter amendments to claims 1 and 17 that were discussed with the Examiner during a telephone interview on March 12, 2003. During the interview, the Examiner suggested presentation of an affidavit/declaration documenting the fact that immobilization of enzymes (proteins) as taught by the WO document would cause them to be deactivated by reason of the drying in a hot air current of approximately 80°C or higher, such that the device of the reference would not have the same operative properties as the sensor defined in the claims 1 and 17. The Examiner also requested clarification of what is meant by "proteins" in the claims, and a secondary reference confirming the general knowledge in the art that physiological temperatures are from 0 to 50°C, and/or non-physiological temperatures are greater than 50 or 60°C.

The Examiner also requested a translation of WO 96/00198, and it was pointed out that a translation had been submitted with the paper mailed to the Office on December 11, 2002.

The undersigned is in the process of securing the documentation requested by the Examiner and it is anticipated that the same will be submitted within the next month. If the Examiner has taken up this application for further action and he has not received the requested documentation, he is asked to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

Don W. Bulson, Reg. No. 28,192

1621 Euclid Avenue Nineteenth Floor Cleveland, Ohio 44115 (216) 621-1113

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper or thing referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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